

FY 2009

SECTION 604(B)/ARRA ALLOCATION  
WORKPLAN

WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT DIVISION

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

## BACKGROUND

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) into law. ARRA provides significant new resources to address water and wastewater infrastructure needs through the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF and DWSRF), and associated Clean Water Indian Set-Aside (CWISA) and Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside (DWTSA) programs. The Clean Water Act also contains a provision to set aside 1% (or \$100,000 [whichever is greater]) of CWSRF funds to support water quality management planning activities through Clean Water Act 604(b) grants. ARRA provides \$43.5 million for Louisiana's CWSRF and \$435,200 for the 604(b) grant, with no match requirements.

Each state must allocate at least 40% of its grant to "regional public comprehensive planning organizations" (RPCPOs) and "appropriate interstate organizations" unless a determination is made by the governor that such allocation will not result in significant participation by such organizations and not significantly assist in development and implementation of water quality management plans.

EPA strongly encourages States to use 20% of the Section 604(b) funds under the ARRA to conduct appropriate planning activities with regard to green infrastructure, water or energy improvements, and other environmentally innovative activities. The activities may include ground water, drinking water and wastewater projects. In addition, EPA Region 6 recommends that the State strongly consider funding activities in the following priority areas:

- Develop TMDLs for non-consent decree areas<sup>1</sup>;
- Purchase Doppler equipment to conduct monitoring for flow/discharge data concurrent with all water sample collections to support load estimates, determine the applicability of standards, partition variability for trend analyses, estimate low flow conditions for permitting applications, and evaluate water use effects on instream flow; and
- Planning for infrastructure (including drinking water and wastewater infrastructure damaged by past hurricanes).

## OBJECTIVE

The primary objectives of this work plan are to:

- provide assistance to the LDEQ in water quality planning activities, through either contract-developed TMDLs or contract-developed Use Attainability Analyses to determine appropriate criteria for selected water bodies;

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<sup>1</sup> The 604(b) grant has historically been utilized to support the LDEQ's performance of water quality management activities, particularly the development of TMDLs. In order to comply with the Federal Consent Decree schedule for TMDL completion, LDEQ and EPA will focus their TMDL efforts on the Lake Pontchartrain Basin during the years 2009-2011, the final phase of the current TMDL schedule.

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- provide assistance to RPCPOs for planning activities that meet the intent of the EPA guidance for use of the ARRA funds;
- provide funds to the Louisiana Ground Water Commission for developing a statewide conservation plan; and
- provide sufficient oversight funds for LDEQ to ensure the proper coordination of activities and the proper expenditure of funds.

## WORK ELEMENT 1: Water Quality Planning Activities

### Task 1. Development of UAAs or TMDLs for selected water bodies

Subtask 1.a LDEQ staff have identified water bodies that have been listed in the past for not meeting the TDS criteria. In certain cases, LDEQ believes the criteria are not appropriate due to naturally occurring higher concentrations of TDS in ground water and/or “reference” or “least-impacted” streams. LDEQ or its contractor will evaluate existing water quality data and determine if data gaps exist. Additional data will be collected if needed, and if analysis of the data shows it is warranted, a criteria revision will be proposed. Initial focus will be in the central part of the state near Bayou Boeuf, but LDEQ will identify other areas as resources allow.

**Output:** (1) Quarterly status reports on the progress of targeted UAA development  
(2) Draft UAA reports will be submitted to EPA for review.  
(3) Final UAA reports will be submitted to EPA prior to initiation of rule-making.

Subtask 1.b. LDEQ staff have identified the following water bodies located in several basins that should have TMDLs reviewed and updated to incorporate new dischargers; new information such as criteria revisions; and/or updated discharge scenarios. LDEQ or its contractor will re-evaluate at least one and up to 5 of the previously-promulgated TMDLs listed below to update them accordingly. Additional data may need to be collected, but that will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Subsegment	Water body description
020101	Bayou Verret, Bayou Chevreuil, Bayou Citamon, and Grand Bayou
020102	Bayou Boeuf, Halpin Canal, and Theriot Canal
120104	Bayou Grosse Tete – From headwaters to ICWW near Wilbert Canal
120111	Bayou Maringouin – From headwaters to East Atchafalaya Basin Levee
120206	Grand Bayou and Little Grand Bayou – From headwaters to Lake Verret

**Output:** (1) LDEQ will provide quarterly status reports on TMDL development by contractors to the EPA Project Officer.  
(2) LDEQ will provide an electronic copy of the updated model(s) and/or TMDL report to the EPA project officer, the EPA TMDL Coordinator, and to the public via its web site.

Subtask 1.c. LDEQ staff will review the following impaired water bodies that were not part of the original Consent Decree and select at least one from this list for development of a TMDL. Selection will be done in consultation with LDEQ’s Water Permits Division to allow them the opportunity to address any water quality permitting issues they have encountered.

<b>Subsegment</b>	<b>Waterbody Description</b>	<b>Impaired Use</b>	<b>Suspected Cause</b>
030101	Calcasieu River – From headwaters to LA-8	PCR	Fecal Coliform
030501	Whiskey Chitto Creek – From headwaters to southern boundary of Fort Polk Military Reservation	PCR	Fecal Coliform
030603	Marsh Bayou – From headwaters to Calcasieu River	PCR	Fecal Coliform
030802	Hickory Branch – From headwaters to West Fork Calcasieu River	PCR, SCR	Fecal Coliform
030805	Indian Bayou – From headwaters to West Fork Calcasieu River	PCR, SCR	Fecal Coliform
031101	Intracoastal Waterway – From Calcasieu Lock to East Calcasieu River Basin boundary	PCR	Fecal Coliform
080606	Cypress Creek – From headwaters to Bayou D'Arbonne; includes Colvin Creek	PCR	Fecal Coliform
080906	Turkey Creek – From Turkey Creek Cutoff to Turkey Creek Lake	SCR	Fecal Coliform
081607	Trout Creek – From headwaters to Little River (Scenic)	PCR	Fecal Coliform
081608	Big Creek – From headwaters to Little River (Scenic)	PCR	Fecal Coliform
090207	Middle Pearl River and West Middle Pearl River – From West Pearl River to Little Lake	PCR	Fecal Coliform
090502	Big Silver Creek – From headwaters to Bogue Chitto River	PCR	Fecal Coliform
090503	Little Silver Creek – From headwaters to Bogue Chitto River	PCR, SCR	Fecal Coliform
090505	Bonner Creek – From headwaters to Bogue Chitto River	PCR	Fecal Coliform
101101	Cane River – From above Natchitoches to Red River	PCR	Fecal Coliform
030701	Bayou Serpent	FWP	Lead *
030804	Little River – From headwaters to West Fork Calcasieu River	FWP	Lead *
040101	Comite River – From Little Comite Creek and Comite Creek at Mississippi state line to Wilson-Clinton highway	FWP	Lead *
050301	Bayou Nezpique – From headwaters to Mermentau River; includes intermittent portion of Beaver Creek	FWP	Lead *

050303	Castor Creek – From headwaters to Bayou Nezpique	FWP	Lead *
050304	Bayou Blue – From headwaters to Bayou Nezpique	FWP	Lead *
050601	Lacassine Bayou – From headwaters to Grand Lake	FWP	Lead *
050603	Bayou Chene – From headwaters to Lacassine Bayou; includes Bayou Grand Marais	FWP	Lead *
110402	Bayou Toro – From LA 473 to Sabine River	FWP	Lead *

\*Some of these lead impairments may be shown to be “false” with the use of clean sampling techniques and therefore the need for a TMDL would be negated

**Output:** (1) LDEQ will provide quarterly status reports on TMDL development by contractors to the EPA Project Officer.  
(2) LDEQ will provide an electronic copy of the updated model(s) and/or TMDL report to the EPA project officer, the EPA TMDL Coordinator, and to the public via its web site.

**Cost (Subtasks 1.a, 1.b, and 1.c):** \$201,120

## WORK ELEMENT 2: PLANNING ACTIVITIES

LDEQ will provide funds to regional planning commissions, cities, parishes, or other planning organizations to assist them in conducting planning activities that meet the intent of the EPA guidance for use of the ARRA funds. This includes projects involving planning for green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, and other environmentally innovative activities and planning for post-disaster wastewater and drinking water infrastructure needs.

Task 1. Develop cooperative agreement with LAPDD (Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts) to develop a Water and Wastewater Emergency Plan. LAPDD is the overarching umbrella organization for our Regional Planning Commissions in the state. LAPDD has provided a draft proposal to LDEQ. Since the requested amount is in excess of the amount available for funding, LDEQ will work with LAPDD to revise its scope to a more focused effort. LDEQ will work with LAPDD to incorporate where possible “green infrastructure” concepts into its emergency plan.

**Output:** (1) LDEQ will provide quarterly status reports on projects to the EPA Project Officer.

(2) LDEQ will provide copies of any deliverables prepared by the recipients to the EPA project officer.

**Cost:** \$174,080

Note: Quarterly progress reports for the period January - March are due April 30; for the period April - June, July 31; for the period July - September, October 31; and for the period October - December, January 31.

### WORK ELEMENT 3: GROUND WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

The Louisiana Ground Water Conservation Commission (the Commission) will evaluate Louisiana's ground water and surface water resources and develop a statewide water conservation plan to preserve the quality and sustainability of Louisiana's ground water resources. The focus is to develop and implement sound policies to address water quality and aquifer sustainability throughout the state.

**Output:** (1) LDEQ will provide quarterly status reports on projects to the EPA Project Officer. (2) LDEQ will provide copies of any deliverables prepared by the recipients to the EPA project officer.

**Cost:** \$40,000

### WORK ELEMENT 4: OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

LDEQ will provide oversight for the funds dispersed through this grant. Personnel will charge their time in accordance with federal requirements.

**Cost:** \$20,000

## **BUDGET SUMMARY**

WORK ELEMENT 1: \$201,120

WORK ELEMENT 2: \$174,080

WORK ELEMENT 3: \$40,000

WORK ELEMENT 3: \$20,000

<b><u>CATEGORY</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
SALARIES	\$ 15,300
FRINGE (approximately 30%)*	\$4,700
CONTRACTUAL	\$ 415,200
TOTAL	\$ 435,200

\* The fringe percentage is the current LDEQ rate.